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OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN.

VEGETABLE LABORATORY.

Every living vegetable is a laboratory, a chemical workshop, into which mineral matter is taken and manufactured into food for some one or more species of the animal kingdom. We doubt whether there is a single plant in the whole universe that has not "its enemies," as they are sometimes called, or, in other words, does not feed and sustain some animal or living creature. But vegetables are formed by a combination of mineral matters. Wheat, so essential to the human family for bread, is composed of several mineral matters, such as silica or flint, lime, potash, &c. Now it would not do for us to eat flint and lime and potash and the various other matters of which wheat is composed, if they were each separately presented to us. Yet God has so constituted our bodies that they must be sustained, supported and increased by these very mineral matters; and he has so arranged the order of things, that vegetables shall first require these mineral elements for their support and increase, and after being modified by them, we should be supported and nourished by them, after which they shall be again returned to the ground, to go the rounds as before. This being the case, it is important for farmers to be on the search, in order to learn what are the ingredients of which each plant is composed, and, of course, to know what food they require, or, as we usually say, what manures will suit them best. The farmer must always bear in mind that his crops are his workmen. They are constantly, day and night, laboring for him. Continually toiling in the recesses of their silent but industrious laboratories, to manufacture, from the means, the stock, the manure he has given them, the materials for the support of himself and cattle. He must remember that, as he himself cannot work unless he has food, so neither can his crops.

Dr. Lee, now Editor of the Southern Cultivator, and correspondent of the Genesee Farmer, who, by his chemical researches and writings, has been assiduous in impressing upon farmers the importance of their pursuing such enquiries, not only as a matter of knowledge but also of profit, says—"In using vegetable vitality, with a view to organize food for man, you have much to learn. All that the writer can do is to give a few hints. Salt this remark down in one corner of your memory. Vegetable vitality alone is endowed with the power to combine those constituent elements of plants and animals, called lime, potash, soda, silica, magnesia, iron, chlorine, sulphur, phosphorus, carbon, oxygen, hydrogen and nitrogen, into living compounds. A man, a bird, a fish, an insect, a worm, all animals can alike subsist on a slice of good wheat bread—that is, they can organize their bones, feathers, scales, flesh, &c., out of the elements already organized by the vitality in the germs of the wheat plant. Mark well the grand natural distinction between animal and vegetable vitality. Decompose your slice of bread by burning it, or by any other means, into its original mineral elements, (air and water are minerals as much as iron in the language of science,) and collect all the constituents of the bread in a clean glass vessel. Now, neither man, fish, bird nor insect can form a particle of flesh out of the matter which made the bread; but a young plant, under favorable circumstances of warmth, light, &c., can re-organize all the constituents of the plant into nutritious food for animals. Vegetable life has infinitely greater force than that of animals; but it cannot transmute one element into another, iron into gold for instance, nor create anew one particle of any element when perchance it shall be lacking and needed this season to organize for you a large yield of sound potatoes. Vegetable life is older than animal life."

From what has here and oftentimes before been said, farmers, and especially young farmers, who are beginning to think and act for themselves, will see the importance of careful and correct inquiry into the nature of manures, and what sort of material, and in what quantities each plant will need them in order that its laboratory or workshop may be supplied, so that it may turn out to you, at harvest time, the greatest amount of valuable crops for your use.

ARE YOU READY?

April has already advanced mid-way in its course, and the labors of spring multiply upon you. Are you ready for the summer campaign? Look carefully about you—consider first what is to be done and your means to do it, and then arrange your forces according to your best skill and judgment. Do up fences as fast as your help and the absence of frost will allow you. Get out your manures. Look over the ploughs and see if they need any repairs and are in first rate order. A good plough is absolutely necessary. See that your chains are all strong, and not likely to break or require mending in the midst of your hurry. Examine your yokes and bows, and have a spare bow or two, in order, should you break one, to prevent delay, and stopping of your team in fine weather when every moment is valuable. From the experience of farmers, for the few years past, it has been found best to plant potatoes early, in order to have them grow and mature in the cooler part of the season, and thus escape, in a great measure, the rot. It is worth while to attend to this suggestion. Land that is to be seeded down to grass, should be well supplied with

seed. We can recommend, from experience, a bountiful seeding. This should be done early, as an early seeding is much more liable to "catch," as some call it, than if done at a later period. The season of spring is one of care and labor and of hope. It will take all the energies and resources of the farmer, and he should rouse up and apply himself like a man. Some have health and capital, and can overcome difficulties with comparative ease. Others are deprived of health, or resources, or both, and find it hard work to grapple with obstacles that present themselves. We can only say to them—fight on—God helps them who help themselves.

BUTTER FOR THE NAVY.

We have received a pamphlet or circular, from the Secretary of the New York State Agricultural Society, discussing the subject of manufacture of navy butter for foreign stations.

It seems that the amount of butter annually required by the navy, for foreign stations, is sixty thousand pounds; and it also appears that, either from interested motives or from superstition, this amount has hitherto been all purchased from Orange county, in New York—the contractors alleging that no other butter would keep well in foreign stations.

The executive committee of the above named Society, have investigated the subject, and can find no reasons to warrant them in the belief that butter well made, from other sources, will not keep as well. That it is owing rather to the skill of the Orange county dairy women than to any peculiarity of soil and climate in said county.

In addition to what we have said above, we may add, that the first requisites for good butter are cows that give rich milk—next, good pasturage, or pastures that are well stocked with the most nutritious grasses—and next, pure water for your cows to drink. When all these requisites can be had, whether in Orange county or any other county, York State or any other State, good butter can be made by those who understand the art; suitable to be packed for foreign naval stations, or any other station. Our own State can furnish an abundance of situations where dairies, embracing all the above requirements, can be established; and it only wants more enterprise in the farmer, and corresponding skill in the dairy maid, to enable us to compete with any country under heaven.

PROPAGATING FRUIT.

Although much has been done of late in changing poor fruit to good, yet much more remains to be done.

At the present time, no part of husbandry promises a better remuneration to the farmer, than that of fruit growing; yet none is more neglected. Many persons think the time long before they can realize much profit from fruit; besides, they may not live to reap the fruit of their labors, and therefore are too selfish to make the attempt. Others commence, and do it at the halves. In the first place, they select a site, perhaps, are not half worth setting. This done, the orchard is left to take care of itself, and struggle against the repeated assaults of unruly cattle. No wonder that such persons should soon become disheartened at the prospect of speedily reaping the profits of their scanty expenditures.

But again, there are others, whose motto is, "what is worth doing is worth doing well." These commence in earnest, and will not spare a few dollars expense in preparing and manuring their ground, or in setting thrifty and healthy trees, in a manner to ensure success. The result of such management is, their trees come early into bearing, and soon become a source of pleasure and profit. But to return to the subject from which I have somewhat strayed. Much loss has been sustained by grafting trees whose health, constitution and vigor had too much decayed to warrant success. Trees of this description may be much improved by a judicious pruning, a year or more previous to grafting.

Apply a coating of cement to keep out the air and wet, and aid the healing process. A cheap composition, which succeeds well, is made by heating tar, and making it as thick with finely pulverized brick-dust or calcined plaster of paris, as can be applied with warm water with stiff brush. Scrape off the rough bark, and wash the tree with equal parts of soap, cow-manure, and water, and dig in around the roots a quantity of old manure and lime, proportioned to the size of the tree. Scions from thrifty, healthy trees, should be chosen. It is thought to be essential in rearing stock, to select such as are of a healthy constitution, to propagate from; and will not this theory hold good in the vegetable as well as in the animal? The risk, in grafting, is small, provided the weather is favorable, and the trees and scions vigorous. It is not unfrequently happens that scions are injured by the winter, which makes it much more safe to cut them in the fall. They may be taken preserved in the cellar, as fresh as when taken off, by coating the cut end with cement, and pecking in moss. The trouble is small, compared with the disappointment in not having them take, or not making half the growth they would have done had the scion possessed its usual vigor.

D. T.

WIRE FENCE. This mode of fence is becoming quite common, as we learn from various sources, in the northern part of Illinois. We hear of many pieces of it at various places near Rock River—one of them on the farm of John Shillaber, Esq., in Ogle county, being about two miles in length. The cost generally, as near as we can learn, is about 35 cents to the rod. It is said to answer a most admirable purpose against all stock but swine. Cattle and horses particularly, after having their noses well sawed once by it, can scarcely get near it again. A portable fence might easily be made of this material. Will some one give us a particular account of the wire fence?

THE BLACK APPLE.

To the Maine Pomological Society—

GENTS:—The Black Apple originated in the south part of Paris, Oxford Co., Me. It derived its name from its color, being the appearance, when hanging in clusters on the tree, of having been painted and varnished. It is a large, round, fair, and smooth apple. Its flavor is sub-acid, inclining to sweet. Its pulp is very fine, its color yellow, and tinged with crimson next the skin, which is very thin, but rather tough. The core is small, and in some cases almost wanting. It is reported to keep as well as the Roxbury Russet; I consider it doubtful, but think as far as I have seen it will keep next to it. It is a great and rather constant bearer. It has a thrifty, hardy skin, sure to take, and almost seems to covet a hard chance, and an exposed situation.

It has been grafted largely in the south part of Oxford Co., and commands the market of Portland, for table use, in preference to any other apple. I believe ere long it will take the place of the Baldwin, the second apple in the market.

I have grafted, within the last five years, more than ten thousand scions of the Black Apple, in the western part of this County, and the apple connoisseurs on the Kennebec will shortly have their palates refreshed with the sub-acid, saccharine flavor of the Black Apple.

I shall send a few scions by the bearer, Dr. Holmes, for gratuitous distribution among members. I can supply drafts to any amount, even this season.

I think the efforts of your Society, whose object is to elicit information with regard to varieties and culture of fruit, will eventually in great good to this State, whose sunny hillsides and fertile valleys should be hung with "rich, bloom-dusted, melting and luscious" fruit, for the supply of the market of the world. It is ours—shall we embrace it?

This is the doctrine I have taught for years, by precept, and by the weighty example of engrafting tens of thousands of scions per year; and I will go on, with others teaching it, and with you teaching it, until Maine shall "bud and blossom" like a fruit garden, and drive a greater business in fruit than New York does in flour. She can do it. Will she do it? Go on, gentlemen, until this mighty desideratum is effected. You have the best wishes of

Moses B. Sears.

Winthrop, April 1, 1848.

NOTE. We are happy to receive the above description of so valuable an apple as the one in question. It is all that Mr. S. describes it to be. Mr. S. has been, and is still, extensively engaged in grafting, and is one of our most expert and successful engrafters. Many an old orchard will wake up, next summer, from its winter sleep, with an entirely new, and a better head, put on by his hand. [Ed.]

DEEP PLOWING.

A dialogue, between two farmers, upon deep plowing.

FARMER B. Do you not think, neighbor C., that you would do better, and get larger crops, if you would plow your land deeper than you do—say stir it up eight or ten inches instead of three or four?

FARMER C. Eight or ten inches! Why, neighbor B, you are wild. You must be thinking of plowing for a cellar, or digging your grave. Bless me, the earth is as cold, at that depth, as a toad's back in January.

FARMER B. If it is cold, then turn it up and warm it; put in the plow and the harrow, and mellow it up, so that the sun will have a chance to operate upon it, and the warm rains to penetrate it, instead of both operating as they now do, in your fields, upon the thin surface, and making it as hard as a butter-milk cheese.

FARMER C. All that sounds very well, but what is a fellow going to do for manure to enrich so much soil as you propose to turn up. Why, I should lose all my manure in that way.

FARMER B. Very well, suppose you do lose it, the roots of your crops will find it for you again, provided you stir it in well, and make the ground soft. By-the-by, how did that piece of corn turn out, which you have just finished harvesting? You ought to have a good crop of that, for your land was good, and you manured it pretty well.

FARMER C. Yes, my land was in good order, and my corn came up finely in the spring, and looked well all the first part of the season, but somehow or other, along towards fall it began to hang back, and upon harvesting, I find my crop rather small one. I am puzzled to come at the reason of its failure, unless it was the severe dry weather that we had the latter part of August; I dried my corn field up dreadfully.

FARMER B. I don't know, Mr. C., about the dry weather; my corn land is usually as dry as yours; but this year the drought did not seem to injure my crop; in fact, I had more corn than would have been expected from its appearance in the early part of the season—it did not look so well as yours, and my land was not any better, but I gave it a good deep plowing, deeper than usual, and applied what manure I had, and this was rather a small allowance, too. Now, neighbor C., it seems to me that this proves what I have been preaching to you, about the benefits of deep plowing. If the soil is loose and fine to the depth of some ten inches, the roots will run down and find moisture enough to stand any common drought; while, on the other hand, if the soil is loosened to the depth of three or four inches only, the roots cannot ordinarily get below that, and must necessarily feel the effects of the scorching sun, without any chance to escape from it.

FARMER C. Very well. Now suppose you have wet land instead of dry, how would your deep plowing work in that case, friend B?

FARMER B. Still work well, by allowing the water a chance to pass off more readily, instead of standing on the surface, and drowning out your crops.

FARMER C. Really, Mr. B., you talk quite

rational about this matter—but after all, it does seem to me too much like "book farming." I am afraid it won't "make the pot boil."

FARMER B. Try it, try it neighbor C., next season, and see for yourself. I will lend you a helping hand, with my old "browns," to put the plow into a small "patch."

FARMER C. Well, that's fair, neighbor, and I think I will try a small "patch," just to please you, you seem to think so well of it.

FARMER B. Good evening, Mr. C., now remember that small "patch."

FARMER C. Good evening. I will—I'll try it, if I live till another season, though I don't think much on't.

PLow JEGGER, JUNIOR.

POTATOES AMONG CORN A PREVENTIVE OF ROT. James A. Mallory, of Whitefield, tried the following experiment, last year, with success:—The potatoes were planted at the usual season in alternate rows with Indian Corn. The crop grew well, and was entirely free from rot, while potatoes in an adjoining field, and in the neighborhood, planted in the usual way, were very much affected with this disease.

It is true that one swallow makes no summer, nor is one successful experiment of the kind to establish an invariable rule, but they are both indications worth regarding. It is possible that the corn might have kept the potatoes cooler and thus prevented one of the peculiar requisites for the disease. At any rate it is easily tried, and if success follows the practice, great good will be obtained, in the shape of good potatoes.

PONY GRASS.

The Maine Farmer asks the "Wrights" of the Prairie Farmer for information about a western grass spoken of in Allen's American Agriculture under the name of *Pony Grass*, so called, we presume, from the fact that the Indians about Green Bay formerly kept their ponies upon it through the winter, in good condition.

As to the "Wrights" spoken of, we had supposed the editor of the Maine Farmer to be too observing a man to fall into the mistake of thus hammering the two names, which stand in editorial connection in this paper, together. They are slightly alike, it is true, but yet not the same, as only indifferent "specks" will show.

Of the pony grass we have never elsewhere heard; but when the individual, wearing the latter of the names thus melted down by our Maine friend, first came to Illinois, a few Winnebago and Pottawattamie Indians remained about Rock River, together with several French traders, who lived in much the same fashion as their red friends. These people had many ponies, of course. They wintered them on the bottom lands, where they were accustomed to run in summer; and the animals came out in spring in various conditions—some of them very well indeed, and others poor enough.

The bottom lands then grew the wild grasses common to the low prairies, all of which, with the exception of the Indian Blue Grass, *Poa compressa*, kill early, by the frosts; but as these meadows were then not troubled with the scythe, or shorted off in summer, much of the feed remained protected in comparatively good condition, by the growth above; thus affording these hardy animals a tolerable bite all winter, especially if a goodly fall of snow conducted still further to shield it from frosts and drying winds.

The wild grasses of the prairies, which consist of many species, do not grow in a close turf, like red top, and the New England grass, but in tufts, from six inches to two feet apart, the space between these tufts being entirely naked. The snow falling to no such depth in the western country as six feet, leaves the tufts visible both to human and to pony eyes. There may be, however, in Northern Wisconsin or elsewhere, some one species of grass, which has obtained the name above alluded to. If so, we would gladly be informed. [Prairie Farmer.]

NOTE. We thank our Far West neighbors, Messrs. Wright and Wright, (we have hit W-right now, have we not, friend Wright?) for the information respecting "Pony Grass." We were in hopes that we should get hold of a species of grass as hardy as a Polar Bear, that would hold up its head during an Up East winter, and give us green food for cattle in early spring. We have the *Poa compressa* in Maine.

POTATO ROT.

Professor Horsford, of Cambridge, has sent a communication to the Boston Courier on the subject of potato rot, accompanied with the following method, proposed by Dr. Klotzsch, of Berlin, Prussia, who has been promised a reward of \$1400, by the King of Prussia, if, after a trial of three years, it succeeds. We copy below, from the Courier, Dr. K.'s statement.

Method proposed by Dr. Klotzsch, for the protection of the Potato Plant against Disease.—The potato, which is an annual plant, represents, in the tubers developed from the stem, the perennial part of a plant; for while the duration of its development is analogous to that of annuals, its sections coincide exactly with those of dicotyledonous shrubs and trees.

The potato plant differs from all those plants which are cultivated for economical purposes in Europe, and can only be compared to those orchidaceous plants which yield the saffron, and which are not cultivated among us. The tubers, both of the potato and of the saffron plants, are nutritious, and agree in this, that in the cells of the tubers, grains of starch, with more or less azotized mucilage, are collected, while the cell walls possess the remarkable property of swelling up into a jelly, and thus becoming easily digestible when boiled with water.

But while the tuber of saffron contains only one bud or germ, the potato usually develops several, and many germs.

The potato plant, like all annuals, exerts its chief efforts in developing flowers and

fruit. Like all annuals too, it has the power of shortening this period of development, when the power of the roots is limited; as also of lengthening it, when the extent and power of the roots are increased.

We observe in nature, that plants with feebly developed roots often have a weak, sickly aspect, but yet come to maturity in flower and fruit sooner than stronger individuals, well furnished with roots.

In perennial plants we observe a second effort, which is directed towards preparing and storing the nutritious matter, for the consumption of the plant. The preparation of this nutriment is effected by the physiological action of the leaves, under the influence of the roots. The stronger and larger the former are, the more is this preparation of food delayed.

The nutritious matters are stored in the colored stratum of the bark in sprouts and tubers, and in the tubers in the potato and saffron plants. Not only, however, the nutritive matters, but also the cells owe their origin to the physiological action of the leaves.

On considering these things, it follows that the potato plant required more care than is usually devoted to it. Hitherto the whole cultivation consisted in clearing off weeds, and hoeing up the earth round the stems. Both of these measures are indeed necessary, but they are not alone sufficient—for the plant is cultivated, not on account of its fruit, but for the sake of its tubers, and the treatment should be modified accordingly.

The chief points to be attended to, with a view to the attainment of the object, namely, the increase of tubers, are—

1. To increase the power in the roots, and
2. To check the transformation which occurs in the leaf.

We obtain both ends simultaneously, if, in the 5th, 6th, and 7th week after setting the tubers, and in the 4th and 5th week after planting out germs furnished with roots, or at a time when the plants reach the height of six to nine inches above the soil, we pinch off the extreme points of the branches or twigs to the extent of half an inch downwards, and repeat this on every branch or twig in the 10th and 11th week, no matter at what time of day.

The consequence of this check to the development of the stem and branches, is a stimulus to the nutritive matters in the plant in the direction of the increase, both of roots and of the multiplication of the branches of the stem above ground, but not only favors the power of the root, but also strengthens the leaves and stalks to such a degree, that the matters prepared by the physiological action of these parts are increased and applied to the formation of tubers; while, at the same time, the direct action of the sun's rays on the soil is prevented by the thick foliage, and thus the drying up of the soil and its injurious consequences are avoided.

The checking of the transformation in the leaf is equivalent to the interruption of the natural change of the leaves into calyxes, corolla, stamens and pistils, which is effected at the expense of the nutritive matters collected in the plant; and these, when this modification of the leaves is arrested, are turned to account in the formation of tubers.

Led by these views, I made, in 1846, experiments on single potato plants, carefully marked, by pinching off the ends of the branches. They were so readily distinguished, in their subsequent growth, from the plants beside them, by more numerous branches, larger and darker foliage, that, in truth, no marking was necessary.

The produce from these plants of tubers was abundant, and the tubers were perfectly healthy—while the plants next them, which had not been so treated, gave uniformly a less produce, at the same time the tubers were rough on the surface, and in many instances attacked with the prevailing disease. This experiment was incomplete, and did not give a positive result, but it was yet encouraging for me.

In the middle of April, 1847, an experiment was made on a low-lying field with the round white potatoes, generally cultivated here,—a variety which had not suffered much from the disease which first appeared here in 1845. The potatoes were planted in the usual way by an experienced farm servant.

After weeding them in the end of May, I renewed my experiment by pinching off the points of the branches of every second row, and repeated this in the end of June. The result surpassed all expectations. The stalks of the plants not treated on my plan were long, straggling, and sparingly furnished with leaves, the leaves themselves small and pale green.

In the next field, potatoes of the same variety were planted on the same day, and left to nature. They appeared in the first six weeks healthy, even strong, but gradually acquired a poor aspect as the time of flowering and fruit approached, and finally exhibited precisely the same appearances as the rows not treated by pinching off the extremities in the field in which my experiments were made.

The harvest began in the surrounding fields in the middle of August, and was very middling. The tubers were throughout smaller than usual, very scabby, and within these fields, to a small extent, attacked by the wet rot.

In the end of August, the difference between the rows treated by me and those not treated became so striking, that it astonished all the work people in the neighborhood, who were never tired of inquiring the cause. The stalks of the rows left to themselves were now partly dried, partly dead. On the contrary, the rows treated as above were luxuriant, the roots treated as above were luxuriant, and in full vigor, the plants healthy, the foliage thick, the leaves large and dark green, so that most people supposed they had been later planted.

But the difference in the tubers was also very decided. The tubers in the plants in rows treated on my plan were not, indeed,

Any one would be bitterly disappointed, who, on the principle that "there cannot be too much of a good thing," should take off more than is here recommended, in order to use it as fodder.

larger, but vastly more numerous, and they were neither scabby nor affected with any disease whatever. A few had pushed, (which was to be ascribed to a late rain,) and were, apparently, incompletely developed, while scab and wet rot attacked more and more the tubers of the other plants, which also fell off on the slightest handling.

Although I am far from believing that I am able to explain the nature of the potato disease which has visited us of late years, yet I feel certain that I have discovered a means of strengthening the potato plant to such a degree as to enable it to resist the influences which determine such diseases.

Should any one be deterred from continuing the cultivation of potatoes, on account of the manipulation here recommended, which may be performed by women and even by children, I would remind him that the same field planted with potatoes is capable of supplying food to twice as many persons as when employed to grow wheat.

—This communication was addressed to the peasantry of Prussia.

TRANSPLANTING EVERGREENS.

In the summer of 1845, passing up the Housatonic Railroad near the village of G. B. or S., I observed on the opposite side of the valley, a cemetery that appeared to have been planted with evergreens—the fir; but which were themselves the subjects of mortality, as all, so far as I could discover from the line of the railroad, wore the dull red habiliments of death, of that desolate child of the forest. I thought of that desolate burial ground—desolate from what was intended, with better taste than knowledge or skill, to adorn and beautify—often and every, when memory has revived the scenes of that interesting valley; and with the thought has arisen the wish to contribute something of information and encouragement to those who had set an example, in the effort so worthy of imitation.

Having transplanted the native evergreens with ease and success, I have thought to impart the simple and safe process to my Berkshire friends, in the hope that it may induce to a renewal of effort with those who have failed, and stimulate others, who have taken counsel of their fears and the ill-success of their neighbors, to put aside their unbelief and lend a helping hand.

My mode of procedure is this: when the trees are to be removed from wet or swampy ground, (which is usually the case,) to dry, let a hole for the reception of the tree be dug from three to four feet across, and to the depth of one and a half to two feet. Have a quantity of swamp muck drawn to the ground to be planted; mix the muck with an equal portion of the soil thrown out, and with this admixture re-fill the hole half way, or so far as to leave the tree in its natural position, when planted; with a like compost of earth for filling in when the tree is set. Next, take a well-tempered spade, ground to a sharp, smooth edge; with this instrument cut a circle around the tree to be removed,—at the distance of 10, 15 or 20 inches, according to the size, by a firm pressure of the foot, driving the spade to the depth of the blade, and severing all roots beyond the circle, and at the same time, inclining the handle of the spade a little towards the tree, so that the fracture or chip shall be on the part of the root cut off. Then lift out the tree with the ball of earth attached; which, there being no taproots, parts readily from the subsoil, in which condition it is to be removed to the place for planting. If the distance is not great and the handling careful, the ball will need no protection. If however the transportation is considerable, or rough, the tree when lifted should be placed in a piece of old matting, sacking, canvas &c., which is to be drawn up snugly over and around the ball, and secured by a cord at the base of the stem, the cord passing over the ball in different directions to keep the ball firm. A little water poured on will serve to render the earth adhesive, and to keep the roots moist. In this condition the trees may be transported to a great distance, and remain out of ground for several days without material injury. Plant the tree, filling in with the compost prepared, which should be well pressed down around the ball, or settled by pouring on a bucket or two of water, in the course of filling in. Stake the tree to prevent the wind from turning it out before it gets rooted, and the work is done; and if these directions are followed, my word for it, well done. Let the operator be frightened by this formula—take hold of the work with a good will, at the same time discard any idea that he can drive a close bargain with the denizens of the forest, for I assure him it cannot be done—and the thing is accomplished with the ease and in less time than the description of the labor to be performed is given.

The rationale of the process is, the roots of the Evergreen are extremely sensitive, and liable to injury by exposure to the rays of the sun, or even to the atmosphere—the delicate extremities, the *espangioles* in a short time become withered and shrunken and when once closed they never afterwards expand; unlike deciduous trees whose roots revive and perform their proper functions; the roots of the evergreen when closed are closed forever, and the tree dies a lingering death of starvation. This is the important point. By taking up a ball of earth a portion of the fibrous roots at the base of the tree are undisturbed, which will supply aliment to the tree, and enabled to throw off new ones. And by using a sharp spade in the manner indicated, besides the additional ease of taking up, the amputated roots are free from fracture at the point of excision, and consequently not subject to imparting feebleness or death to the tree.

As the season for spring transplanting is at hand, I have given my mode, which I have practiced with success in planting evergreens, in the hope that it will encourage some, and assist others to adorn private and public grounds with the varied sylvan gems which are the subjects of this chapter. T. A. S.

Syracuse, March 16, 1848.

[Berkshire Agriculturist.]

PREPARATION OF CLOVER SEED.

We have received two communications from Joseph Warbasse, of Newton, New Jersey, on his mode of preparing clover seed for sowing, by which the writer calculates he makes a saving of one-half the seed required. Mr. Warbasse's process seems to be predicated on the assumed fact, that ordinarily, more than one-half of the seed does not germinate, either from the want of moisture to swell it, or of gypsum, the presence of which, he considers essential to stimulate the germinating principle. Mr. Warbasse is probably right in saying that one-half the clover seed sown does not come up; and he is strengthened in his supposition that much of it remains dormant in the soil, by the fact he states, and which is of common notoriety, that plaster sown on light lands, will bring in clover, where no seed is sown at the time. Mr. Warbasse's remedy for the evil is, to saturate and swell the seed thoroughly in soft water, to which a small quantity of salt is added, and after it becomes well saturated, to coat it with gypsum, &c., the effects of which seem to be to prevent the escape of moisture which the seed has imbibed, and thus insure its germination and growth. A further advantage may be, that the salts impart fertility to the soil which comes in immediate contact with the seeds, and causes a more vigorous growth. Such seems to be the philosophy upon which Mr. W.'s practice is founded. We give the process of preparing the seed in his own words:—

"The seed is to be made thoroughly wet with a strong pickle from your pork cask; let it remain in a heap one day; then spread it about one or two inches thick on a dry floor, and in a few days a crust of salt will be formed on each grain. When you wish to sow it, moisten it again with pickle, spread it over a floor, and put on about three quarts or more to a half bushel of seed; mix it well, and keep it moist in a cellar until you sow it."

[Yankee Farmer.]

ORCHARD PLANTING.

Mr. J. C. Brayton writes us on the subject of orchard planting, and gives directions for setting in the quinque form. Mr. B.'s directions are as follows:—

"First get as many small straight stakes as you have trees to set; fix a rope with a loop hole in each end, of the length you wish your trees to stand apart. Commence on one side of your plot of ground; stick a stake at one corner; let one man hold one end of the rope on the first stake, passing the hole in the rope down on the stake nearly to the ground; the other will stick another stake in the hole at the other end. Then proceed to set the stakes across the side of your field, in a perfectly straight line. Having completed the first row, place the hole at one end of the rope on the first stake; place a stake through the other end, and describe an arc of a circle with the point of a stake, pulling the stake. Having done this, place the other end of the rope on stake No. 2, and describe an arc, as before, across the first arc. The point where the circles intersect will be the place for the first stake in the second row. Complete the second row in the same manner; and if done accurately, the other rows may be laid out by ranging across the stakes and measuring for the stakes at the ends of the field with a rope."

[Prairie Farmer.]

THE FARMER'S WIFE.

The following remarks relating to the condition of woman; are from the pen of John Quincy Adams:—"The female is formed in a delicate mould—for subsistence rather than action. In every state of society, woman must live in a state of dependence upon man. To the savage hunter, she is but as a mere domestic animal. To the shepherd, she is but as one of the flocks, and shares his regards with the sheep and the ox, who yield him food and raiment. To the husbandman she resumes her native dignity, and is no longer the slave or the plaything of her tyrant, used at will or caprice, worn out and thrown aside; but becomes the partner of his life, the mistress of his home, the prop and stay of his soul; that bosom no longer racked with jealous tortures of other women sharing her husband's love—the love of each forms the happiness of each. She is the common mother of the whole family; and all are bound to her by one holy bond of filial obedience. And in this community alone woman enjoys that true liberty and love which is her birthright and her blessing."

[The Philosopher's Stone.]

The philosopher's stone has been discovered. It turns everything into gold. We know several who possess the gem. Worlds would not tempt them to part with it. Our neighbor,



AUGUST, THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1849.

CLIMATE OF MEXICO.

A writer in Mexico states that the climate there is a singular one—that the atmosphere contains so much less oxygen than the atmosphere of this country, and that the whole economy of life is changed—the pulse is increased to almost double in frequency, and there is great want of vigor and energy. We should like to know if any accurate experiments have ever been instituted, to ascertain if there is in reality less oxygen in Mexico than in New England. [Mr. Farmer.]

Of course, Doctor, you know there is a great difference in the density of the atmosphere at the sea level, and at the height of seven to nine thousand feet above it. The barometer proves this. The atmosphere at the sea level, therefore, contains not only more oxygen in a given space, but more of the elements of which it is composed, unless those elements are combined in different proportions as the depth or height of the atmosphere increases. If the Dead Sea be 1400 feet below the level of the Mediterranean, which is the level of the ocean, then the atmosphere about the shores of that famous sea must be considerably more dense than at the sea level, or here on the banks of the Kennebec, where we breathe air rich and invigorating as most of the inhabitants of Earth have.

[Kennebec Journal.]

"Stop, dad, less argu that." Perhaps both of us are right.

The writer, from whom the Farmer took the above account, dated at Vera Cruz, which you will allow, is on the plains near the sea; nay, is partly in the sea. However, just for your accommodation, we will pump him in to the "Halls of the Montezumas," which are pretty high up in the world. In that case, had the writer said there was less atmospheric air than in the lower parts of New England, he would have hit it right. But to say that there is less oxygen, conveys the idea that there is a less proportion of it to the other ingredients of the atmosphere in Mexico than in the United States. This we believe will be found incorrect. You shall take a cubic foot of atmospheric air from the plains of Mexico or its mountains,—from the plains of New England or its mountains,—and analyse them; you will find the proportions the same, viz: twenty-one parts of oxygen to the one hundred parts of nitrogen. It is true, that the less dense the atmosphere, the less quantity of air there is in a given space, say a square foot; but the proportions, mind you, are the same; or, at any rate, that has been the result of the analysis of all pure atmospheric air. Now, suppose you take a column of atmospheric air, say a foot square at the base, and forty miles high, in New England, and a similar column of the atmosphere in Mexico; think you there will be less oxygen in the Mexican atmosphere than in the other, merely because it is found in Mexico? Surely not. Climb as high as you please in each country, and you will find the proportions and the density the same, all other things being equal. If it is less dense in Mexico, fourteen hundred feet above the sea, it is the same at a similar height in New England, and the proportions of oxygen and nitrogen, the two constituents of the atmosphere, are the same. Deprive the atmosphere of oxygen in any degree and you bring on suffocation; and this suffocation will be more or less complete according to the degree of deprivation of oxygen. The sufferers, who died in the Black-hole of Calcutta, did not die because the air was more or less dense, but because of a diminution of oxygen. The small aperture would not admit it as fast as was consumed by the crowd of men shut up in that dismal prison.

Until some careful analysis of the atmosphere in Mexico,—whether on the plain or the mountain,—be had, we shall not believe that the proportions of the vital part of it (its oxygen) are different from those in other parts of America. Its density, of course, varies according to the height above the sea and according to the same laws which govern atmospheric density everywhere else. We don't believe the Almighty has made any special exceptions in Mexico, or that his laws of nature are different there, from what they are anywhere else. "Them's our sentiments."

THE COMMON SCHOOL ADVOCATE, under the editorial charge of our able Secretary of the Board of Education, Mr. Crosby, will be issued in a week or two. The publishers, Messrs. Rowe & Griffin, of Belfast, desire those who hold prospectuses, in the several counties in the State, to return them as soon as possible. Let the Common School Advocate be widely circulated. That it will be well worthy of extensive patronage, we have not a doubt.

NOT COMING THIS SPRING. The Editor of the New England Washingtonian received by the Hibernia a letter from Father Mathew, in which he states that, having been called to Rome by his superiors, he shall not be able to visit his friends in this country before the end of August or beginning of September. He had made arrangements to cross the Atlantic next month. We trust that another postponement of his visit will not occur. The inhabitants of the States are anxious to see and hear the "great apostle of temperance."

A MOTHER POISONED BY HER DAUGHTER. The Boston press contain the particulars of a recent murder case in that city—revolving in the extreme—that of a mother murdered by her daughter! The girl is only fourteen years of age. Her mother being unwell, and, according to her confession, in the habit of cruelly beating her, she bought arsenic, under the pretence of killing rats, and administered it to her in water. The verdict of the jury of inquest is, "that Sarah Cain came to her death by violence, on Friday, the 7th inst., between the hours of 6 and 8 o'clock A. M., at her house in the rear of No. 24 Court street, in consequence of arsenic administered to her by her daughter, Sarah Jane Pinkerton, one or more times, between Thursday morning the 6th inst. and the Friday evening following."

A RAZING BATTALION. An exchange says that a rendezvous has been opened for the purpose of enlisting young men to fill the corps of Gapers at several church doors on Sunday.

WHEAT CROP IN OHIO. The Ohio Cultivator says that the wheat crop in that State looks well at present and promises to be good.

PROLIFIC. A Mrs. Denly, of St. Louis, Jackson Co., Miss., is the mother of twenty-eight children, all by one husband. Her husband has been married to her for twenty years, and she has borne him twenty-eight children, all by one husband. Her husband has been married to her for twenty years, and she has borne him twenty-eight children, all by one husband.

A FARM FOR YOUR LABOR. The trustees of the Wash and Erie canal offer 800,000 acres of land along the route of the canal in part pay for labor on the works.

CURIOUS FISH.

Mr. Holmes—The following is from a small volume, published in England, containing many interesting facts and entertaining anecdotes. It is an adventure in a sea bath anecdote.

"A friend and myself were bathing one morning, and determined to swim out and rest on a certain rock. He generally took the lead, and whilst following, I was suddenly struck as by an electric shock. I then discovered that I had swum on a gelatinous substance, about three feet in diameter, which proved to be a fish surrounded by stings. In a moment it covered or enveloped me, so that every part of my body was stung, and I could only disengage myself by tearing the animal from me by piecemeal, at the peril of my hands, which were as if oil of vitriol had been poured upon them. With great difficulty I swam to the shore, but had not strength enough to dress, and afterward was led home between two persons. A medical friend ordered an application of oil and vinegar. Intense agony, which I can compare to nothing but being stung by thousands of wasps, continued for about eight hours; and had it not terminated then, I must have sunk under the torture. Several of these creatures are seen on the sands left by the tides, but though the inhabitants of Porto-Bello had heard of persons being slightly stung, the oldest of them had never known a case parallel to mine."

D.

RAILROAD MEETING.

At a railroad meeting recently held in Vassalborough, for the purpose of considering the contemplated extension of the Portland and Kennebec road to the valley of the Sebasticook, the following gentlemen were appointed a committee to solicit subscriptions and attend a survey of the route through Vassalborough and Winslow—John G. Hall, Edward Frye, C. A. Webber, Charles McFadden, John Mower, Wm. Bassett, Prince Hopkins, Edmund Getchell, Robert Ayer, Clark Drummond, Joseph Eaton, Robert R. Drummond and Amasa Dingley. At a later meeting held in Winslow, the following resolves were read and adopted:

Resolved, That the time has fully come, when a liberal policy in regard to Railroads is for the best interest of all classes of our citizens, and that the connection by rail of the larger towns and cities of this State, would tend to benefit them and the State at large.

Resolved, That we regard the Kennebec and Portland Railroad as only the beginning of what the interest of the State demands. And that the extension of that road from Augusta to Bangor is demanded by public convenience, and the interest of the country through which it would pass.

Resolved, That the contemplated extension of the Portland and Kennebec Railroad from Augusta to the valley of the Sebasticook, is a project of great importance, for which extension a survey is about being made by the liberal policy of the Kennebec and Portland Railroad Company. And that the extension of that road from Augusta to Bangor is demanded by public convenience, and the interest of the country through which it would pass.

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LETTERS FROM THE WEST.

NUMBER IV.

BURKE PRATT, WAYNE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

DEAR SIR—I gave you a sketch of the manner and the cost of opening a farm on a small scale, in this section of country. As to the quality of stock to place upon it, the settler may consult his fancy or his means. We have some of most kinds, of fair quality, but as the drovers are continually visiting us, and most of our farmers act on the pod-auger system, our best animals bid us adieu before arriving at maturity. Among the English settlements in Edwards county, the stock of horses, cattle, hogs, and sheep, are kept in tolerable purity of blood, and good stock can be had at fair prices. But should Alexander Walker choose to pass through our diggings, I think he would have some serious reflections upon his "slaves of crossing," and would perhaps obtain a few cuts to illustrate his "beauty of the locomotive system."

But the settler (not Mr. Walker) could perhaps suit his fancy to the purchase of a few pigs at "weaning," a bit to three dollars per head at "weaning," some latitude of price, but more of quality, the long "trots," with pod-auger face and nose, and tail too slick and slim to hold a "knot." Sheep of fair breeds are worth from \$1.50 to \$3.00 per head; and in this country can be easily kept and raised if the owners will take the least care of them. I have never yet known a sheep doctored in any manner in my immediate neighborhood, though they are frequently sick; the way is to let them live or die, as they chance. A few dollars will thus give the settler a "start" in the hog and sheep line, and if he puts in a "flax patch," he can then "go ahead" a la Hossier. His cows and hogs take to the range and feed themselves till autumn, when the corn is gathered, when he can fat them as before described, or by other methods, as suits his fancy.

I shall not at present invade the sanctum of "indoor," as the queer specimens of economy there, would not profit a Yankee girl. I will mention, however, that about old Diogenes chance along "out west," he could find "lots and squares" of women who could teach him that one may live without a tub!

For five years after, entry lands are not taxable; after which they are rated for taxation at not less than \$3.50 per acre. Personal property of all descriptions, except common kitchen furniture and simple tools, is taxable, and on the whole a rate of thirty-seven and a half cents per hundred dollars is assessed. Thus a man owning a hundred and twenty acres of land, say one half cultivated and raising the value of two thousand bushels of corn, may have his farm, horses, cattle, and perhaps fifty good shoats assessed in the spring at five to six hundred dollars and pay a tax of \$2.50 to \$3. Road taxes call for three to five days labor of every man who is "able-bodied," on the days when they turn out to work. This is a kind of spring-poll tax, and should a poll tax be put on, it will bring a good revenue from a class of people who occupy public or untaxable lands, and thus avoid any but a merely nominal tax of a few bits, though their property may keep them in independent circumstances.

There is an article in the new constitution, to be voted on separately, assessing an additional two mills per cent. for the purpose of paying the interest on the State debt. I think it will be accepted, as all the heaviest property-holders and tax-payers are anxious to settle the State debt as soon as possible. I once saw a doleful story, in some eastern paper, of a poor man "out west," who "had his cow sold for taxes, and she brought only four dollars!" There may have been some such case. There are hardships upon all governments. Representation will bring taxation! and as the poor man would vote, and would own a cow in the range, the awful sum of one-half per cent. would be assessed on her value of six or eight dollars, and the collector would call on him for the payment, if he could make the change where there are no copper coins! and would extract the exorbitant sum from the poor man's penniless pockets, if he could get it. Now if a man has sufficient property to render a tax worth calling for, let him pay it. But no collector in "our diggings" settles his list without paying the tax of many men who graze two, three or more cows on Uncle Sam's pasture, but whose whole tax is not more than a bit or two, and not worth calling for. Many a cow never costs the "poor man" one dollar in feed, and will milk the same, whether rated at six dollars or twenty; "provided always" that she gets plenty of grass and slop, (of the nature of which last articles our sympathizing story-teller must possess no small share.) It is ludicrous to hear your State-tax, county-tax, town-tax, parish-tax, school-tax, and road-tax, "tax-payers," bewail the hardships of their tax-paying—"out-west!" and often have I heard "high taxes" urged as a serious objection to emigration! We live here in contentment, and know no town-tax. As to poor-tax—I don't know of a pauper in this country; and I have frequently asked for them in others, and found none. The fact is you cannot stare out or freeze out a person in this part of "out west," who is able to work, and orphan children are always quickly taken to homes where their labor will support them as well as others live. Nor can you hire the widow to make a good shirt for a bit, and sell the price of a pound of pork or four quarts of corn! Female help is scarce, and the value per week is four to six bushels of corn, or one and a half to two bushels wheat, or a good sized shoat. Not that these are the tender for a girl's wages, but there is a proportion between one's labor for a week and the food to support life the next week, while there is not a natural proportion between that labor and the "red cent." Of all the glowing qualities of the Yankee soil, none are higher or hotter than those feelings that open the heart and purse to relieve the widow and orphan in the dire distress of a rigid winter. Heaven smiles upon you for it, and for it will overlook many imperfections; but who pays the value of four quarts of corn, to the widow for making a comfortable shirt to ward off the touches of twenty degrees Fahrenheit, is a worshipper of the golden calf, or even a copper John Donkey, and need expect no

blessing for another four quarts in charity. The surface of our Lord's earth is wide enough for better proportions. Our "hogs and hominy" are made by the sweat of the face, not by drops from the heart; by the toil of the hands, not the cutting pains of the side and the cracking of the heart-strings. The majority in New England are a blith and happy people—but 'tis certain that many in your crowded towns could find bread here, who need it there! 'Tis for their I speak. The soil here will pay for your toil. Come and work it.

These remarks are perhaps out of place. I wish to show how one can feed himself and family—not how much "vin" he can pocket. I, too, have no dislike to the "yellow dust," but prefer a deficiency of that in my hand to a redundancy of lead in my head or heart.

Most truly yours,
WANDERER.

BIRDS OF AMERICA. There is a splendid display of Audubon's Birds of America, now exhibiting at the State Street Chapel, by Mr. Lamson. The lovers of Nature cannot spend an hour more pleasantly and profitably, than by visiting these splendid portraits of the feathered tribes, which constitute so large a portion of the life and beauty of our earth and its scenery.

ACCIDENT. We learn from the Dover (Me.) Observer, that, on the 26th ult., Mr. Thomas J. Pearson, of that town, while engaged in hauling supplies for the lumbermen, from the foot of Moose-head Lake to the camps in the woods, was so severely injured by the upsetting of his sled as to cause his death on the 7th inst. His age was 45 years.

MR. EVERETT'S EULOGY ON ADAMS. The Boston Atlas gives a glowing account of the proceedings had at Faneuil Hall, on Saturday last, when Mr. Everett delivered his eulogy on J. Q. Adams. It was a chaste and masterly performance, and occupied two hours in its delivery. It will be published soon.

GREEN CHEESE. Mr. Archibald Green, of Bloomfield, N. Y., made 7000 lbs. of cheese last season from fourteen cows, that is 500 lbs. to a cow; but David Crowell, of Rome, in the same State, beat him, for he made 8100 lbs. from thirteen cows.

INDUSTRY. Quite a business is carried on by some people in England, casting idols for the East India market. If some of the poor Pagans could see the makers of their gods, we think they would quit the worship of them in a hurry.

YOUNG DOCTORS. No less than twelve hundred medical students attended lectures at the several medical schools in Philadelphia last winter.

COSTLY PROMISE. One Mr. Stevenson promised to marry Miss Swager. He broke his promise, and at a recent trial, in Philadelphia, he was condemned to pay ten thousand dollars to the plaintiff.

DR. YOUNG'S REPORT.

(CONTINUED.)

A brief account of Katsuh. It may not be improper in this place to offer a few remarks respecting this mountain. Indeed, when it is considered that the White Hills, in New Hampshire, have long enjoyed a great reputation for botanical riches, we cannot but be surprised that Katsuh should have so long failed to interest us. I have now the partially revised edition of the "History of Maine," in which it is stated that our knowledge of its botany may be fully appreciated.

Williamson, in his "History of Maine," (Vol. 1, p. 92,) gives an account of the (supposed) first ascent of the mountain in August, 1804, by a few American gentlemen from Bangor and Orono.

Although, perhaps, visited by a number of individuals after that time, we have no published account of any scientific excursion to Katsuh, until the year 1837, when Prof. Bailey noticed his excursion, in company with Prof. Keely and Barnes, of Waterville College, in the American Journal, Vol. XXXI, p. 20.

In this account we find but a meagre list of the plants seen on the mountain, particularly the alpine vegetation. However, his party were unfortunate. The inclemency of the weather gave poor encouragement. Mr. Barnes and the two guides reached the summit, "found a fine bed of grass, and picked specimens of two plants, which I found to be Vaccinium uliginosum and Empetrum nigrum, both in fruit. We brought no specimens of the grass." The plants growing at the elevation which we had reached, I found the following in great abundance near the slide, viz: Lichens foliatus, Vaccinium vitis-idaea, uliginosum, and Salix repens, var. alpinus. In the slide itself were large quantities of Potentilla fruticosa, and Arctostaphylos.

The second published account is that of Dr. C. T. Jackson, in Sept., 1838, one year after that of Prof. Bailey's party. This excursion, intended to examine the geology of the mountain and to measure its altitude, has given little or no reliable information respecting its vegetation. He tells us of the "low spicy blueberries and mountain cranberries found clinging to the rocks," and of the "low shrubs, such as the Saxifraga, Carex, and Ledum, grow upon the rocks."

With so little information respecting its botany, the importance of my exploration will be justly valued by botanists, although presumptive evidence of its flora being analogous to the White Mountains, was indeed, considered highly probable. Katsuh, as I said above, upon the mountain, lies in Lat. 45° 47' N., Long. 68° 30' W., between the east and west branches of the Penobscot, filling up township No. 3, and in No. 4 to the Wassataquoq, 9th Range; the mountain line passing exactly over the town-line first reached in our ascent, divides these townships. In greatest dimension on a base line, running nearly north and south, is about 9 miles, and its width not less than 6, while its surface in the same direction, on an air line, is about 4 miles, with a width varying from 100 rods to 1½ miles. Its form, therefore, is that of a spherical triangle; the great curve being on the east side, which presents an appalling precipice of near 2000 feet in depth, and overhanging, in some places, by the steep descent, the level of the sea, and when viewed at the distance of 30 or 40 miles, has the appearance of white streaks down the mountain, 3 or 4 feet in width, and which are, of course, recognised as immense slides. Indeed all sides of the mountain, with the exception of the narrow neck forming the northern spur, have, in ages past, felt founder, crushing hundreds of acres of forest beneath its resistless stores. History has recorded only one of these slides, which took place in 1816, on the S. W. side, an event which is said to have altered the aspect "of one of our most difficult places, altogether more tolerable, and in others more easy."

The highest summit (Pomona) faces the southern extremity of the mountain, and gradually slopes off to the westward for half a mile, and then, suddenly, to the west and northwest, while on the northeast, east and south, all is one steep descent. The ridge on the north-west side, about a third way down the ravine, is the Saccatus, or a remarkable bed of huge boulders, which have been, perhaps, swept from the northward, their rounded and smooth form attesting the agency of water, and, if I may hazard a conjecture, the ravine below was caused by a deflexion of the current produced by the great barrier on which this enormous pile of rocks now rests, sweeping over the mountain, in an easterly direction, such as were in the power of the current, and leaving this pile at its sudden recess. This ravine has a low, sandy apron growth at its bottom, while the north side is covered by a dense growth of spruce, fir, and hemlock, which grow more and more numerous until we reach the Camel's Back, before mentioned. Here all is desolation; a confused pile of angular blocks of granite, forming three moderate peaks, running N. E. and S. W., gradually sloping to the north, west, and south, and ending in the sea, presenting an unparalleled scene of ruin, perhaps a dismantled monument that once overlooked Pomona!

From this point, to the southeast, about three-fourths way down, a spur stands out to the east, enclosing a pond, the walls of which are of a ferruginous brown, and the pool itself is of a bluish tinge. Mr. Joseph Norris, who visited this spot on the 12th of Nov., 1825, says of it: "the water appears as blue as the canopy of the sky," and the shores are composed of a substance of a bright yellow hue," probably the oxide of iron resulting from the decomposition of iron pyrites, or sulphate of iron, in the granite. Much other interesting matter respecting Katsuh is furnished by this gentleman, in the "field notes," at the Land Office, and, in particular, he is the probably the first who has noticed this locality, I take the liberty to ascribe his name to this collection of water, (Norris' Lake.) Many springs issue from all sides of the mountain, some of which, according to Norris, "are strongly tinged with iron." There are also beautiful cascades, one in particular which we noticed on the northwest side.

The mountain is composed entirely of granite rocks, both of a coarse and fine texture, and much of it has a reddish hue, the component parts, mica, quartz, and felspar, are proportionally well balanced. Some of the walls left by the slides, exhibit the appearance of immense piles of masonry, so evenly did these slides break off.

I have already described the climate with my remarks on vegetation. It may, however, be proper to state my belief respecting its watery attire. Snow falls and disappears here as on the low land, but it falls earlier and leaves later. Probably upon the average, two months in the year escape without the slightest fall, and perhaps there is no perpetual snow, although it may be that some seasons pass over through which it may remain and only partially thaw. We have an instance of this from Mr. Norris' account. He says: "Near the north end we found a large body of snow, 10 or 12 feet deep. It is very dark colored, and has probably lain there through a great many summers. We cut down into it with the axe, but it has been partially thawed in the warmest weather and then frozen, so that it is nearly as solid as ice. It is so situated that the sun does not shine upon it till near sunset, and then the rays strike it very obliquely."

It is curious that any large body of snow remaining on the summit during the hot months of June and July, would waste so rapidly as to produce a powerful cold, and condense the vapors floating in the air, and send them down in torrents of rain or hail, and sometimes in snow. It is also evident that no body of snow would be formed on the mountain in these seasons unless produced by the northwest wind, and a fact which has been repeatedly observed on the White Hills, while not a particle would appear on the northern slopes. Were the summit of Katsuh a place of perpetual snow, we may sincerely believe, every current of air sweeping from its brow, would chill the surrounding country to an extent of many miles, and the inhabitants of the region south of the mountain would often be exposed to a cutting north wind similar to the bias, in Switzerland, though considerably less in severity.

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DR. YOUNG'S REPORT.

(CONTINUED.)

A brief account of Katsuh. It may not be improper in this place to offer a few remarks respecting this mountain. Indeed, when it is considered that the White Hills, in New Hampshire, have long enjoyed a great reputation for botanical riches, we cannot but be surprised that Katsuh should have so long failed to interest us. I have now the partially revised edition of the "History of Maine," in which it is stated that our knowledge of its botany may be fully appreciated.

Williamson, in his "History of Maine," (Vol. 1, p. 92,) gives an account of the (supposed) first ascent of the mountain in August, 1804, by a few American gentlemen from Bangor and Orono.

Although, perhaps, visited by a number of individuals after that time, we have no published account of any scientific excursion to Katsuh, until the year 1837, when Prof. Bailey noticed his excursion, in company with Prof. Keely and Barnes, of Waterville College, in the American Journal, Vol. XXXI, p. 20.

In this account we find but a meagre list of the plants seen on the mountain, particularly the alpine vegetation. However, his party were unfortunate. The inclemency of the weather gave poor encouragement. Mr. Barnes and the two guides reached the summit, "found a fine bed of grass, and picked specimens of two plants, which I found to be Vaccinium uliginosum and Empetrum nigrum, both in fruit. We brought no specimens of the grass." The plants growing at the elevation which we had reached, I found the following in great abundance near the slide, viz: Lichens foliatus, Vaccinium vitis-idaea, uliginosum, and Salix repens, var. alpinus. In the slide itself were large quantities of Potentilla fruticosa, and Arctostaphylos.

The second published account is that of Dr. C. T. Jackson, in Sept., 1838, one year after that of Prof. Bailey's party. This excursion, intended to examine the geology of the mountain and to measure its altitude, has given little or no reliable information respecting its vegetation. He tells us of the "low spicy blueberries and mountain cranberries found clinging to the rocks," and of the "low shrubs, such as the Saxifraga, Carex, and Ledum, grow upon the rocks."

With so little information respecting its botany, the importance of my exploration will be justly valued by botanists, although presumptive evidence of its flora being analogous to the White Mountains, was indeed, considered highly probable. Katsuh, as I said above, upon the mountain, lies in Lat. 45° 47' N., Long. 68° 30' W., between the east and west branches of the Penobscot, filling up township No. 3, and in No. 4 to the Wassataquoq, 9th Range; the mountain line passing exactly over the town-line first reached in our ascent, divides these townships. In greatest dimension on a base line, running nearly north and south, is about 9 miles, and its width not less than 6, while its surface in the same direction, on an air line, is about 4 miles, with a width varying from 100 rods to 1½ miles. Its form, therefore, is that of a spherical triangle; the great curve being on the east side, which presents an appalling precipice of near 2000 feet in depth, and overhanging, in some places, by the steep descent, the level of the sea, and when viewed at the distance of 30 or 40 miles, has the appearance of white streaks down the mountain, 3 or 4 feet in width, and which are, of course, recognised as immense slides. Indeed all sides of the mountain, with the exception of the narrow neck forming the northern spur, have, in ages past, felt founder, crushing hundreds of acres of forest beneath its resistless stores. History has recorded only one of these slides, which took place in 1816, on the S. W. side, an event which is said to have altered the aspect "of one of our most difficult places, altogether more tolerable, and in others more easy."

The highest summit (Pomona) faces the southern extremity of the mountain, and gradually slopes off to the westward for half a mile, and then, suddenly, to the west and northwest, while on the northeast, east and south, all is one steep descent. The ridge on the north-west side, about a third way down the ravine, is the Saccatus, or a remarkable bed of huge boulders, which have been, perhaps, swept from the northward, their rounded and smooth form attesting the agency of water, and, if I may hazard a conjecture, the ravine below was caused by a deflexion of the current produced by the great barrier on which this enormous pile of rocks now rests, sweeping over the mountain, in an easterly direction, such as were in the power of the current, and leaving this pile at its sudden recess. This ravine has a low, sandy apron growth at its bottom, while the north side is covered by a dense growth of spruce, fir, and hemlock, which grow more and more numerous until we reach the Camel's Back, before mentioned. Here all is desolation; a confused pile of angular blocks of granite, forming three moderate peaks, running N. E. and S. W., gradually sloping to the north, west, and south, and ending in the sea, presenting an unparalleled scene of ruin, perhaps a dismantled monument that once overlooked Pomona!

From this point, to the southeast, about three-fourths way down, a spur stands out to the east, enclosing a pond, the walls of which are of a ferruginous brown, and the pool itself is of a bluish tinge. Mr. Joseph Norris, who visited this spot on the 12th of Nov., 1825, says of it: "the water appears as blue as the canopy of the sky," and the shores are composed of a substance of a bright yellow hue," probably the oxide of iron resulting from the decomposition of iron pyrites, or sulphate of iron, in the granite. Much other interesting matter respecting Katsuh is furnished by this gentleman, in the "field notes," at the Land Office, and, in particular, he is the probably the first who has noticed this locality, I take the liberty to ascribe his name to this collection of water, (Norris' Lake.) Many springs issue from all sides of the mountain, some of which, according to Norris, "are strongly tinged with iron." There are also beautiful cascades, one in particular which we noticed on the northwest side.

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The New, Safe, and Fast Sailing Steamer
KENNEBEC, CAPT. NAT'L KIMBA
 UNTIL further notice, will leave Steamboat V.
 Halliwell, TUESDAY and FRIDAY, for Boston
 24. Gardiner at 5, and Bath at 6 o'clock P. M.
 RETURNING—Leaves FOSTER at 6 o'clock P. M.

THURSDAY AND SATURDAY evenings. The Kew
is a new boat, built expressly for this route; the Ke-
mish with boats and fire engine; and her good cap-
tain, second, with her splendid accommodations, has
rendered her a great favorite with the traveling public.
The proprietors hope to have a share of the business
coming season.

FARE to Boston, \$1.50 Males Extra.
to Lowell, 2.00


Stages will be in readiness on the arrival of the Kew
at Fallwell, to carry passengers to Whitcomb,
field, Wilton, Livermore, Farmington, Dixfield, Cal-
skewag, Norridgewock, Waterville, &c.

Stages will be in readiness to receive the passengers
and freight and passengers to and from Waterville, on the
arrival and sailing. A. H. HOWARD, Agent.

N. B. This boat will take no Live Cattle, on
this season.

Hallowell, April 1848.

**New Arrangement—Railroad Line for
PORTLAND, LOWELL, & BOSTON**

 **STEAMER HUXTREFF**, Capt. DAVIS BLAIR, leaves Hallowell at 8½, Gardiner at 9½, and Bath at 11 A. M., on *Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays*, for **PORTLAND**, where passengers can take the 3 o'clock train for **LOWELL**; **BOSTON**; arrive in Lowell at 8 o'clock; also, in Lowell at 8 o'clock same evening.

RETURNING—Cars leave the **Lowell Depot** at 7 o'clock A. M.; also leave the **Eastern and Main Railroad** at 7 o'clock A. M.

FARE.
From Hallowell, Gardiner and Richmond to Lowell,
all the same amount, as follows:
50 Bath to Lowell,
50 Hallowell, Gardiner and Richmond to Portland
50 Bath to Boston.
Passengers for Lowell will notice, by the New Arr
ment, that by taking the Hallowell they will arrive in
all the same amount, as follows:
50 Bath to Lowell. Also, Passengers can have their ch
taking the Upper or Lower Route to or from Boston
50 Passengers on Freight taken or left at any
Depot between Portland and Boston.
Agents—C. G. BACHELDER, Hallowell;
PERRINS, Gardiner; J. E. BROWN, Bath; CHA
GOWEN, Augusta; W. R. FAY, Waterville.

BOSTON AND LOWELL—1848.






Steamer Charter Oak, Capt. E. H. Sanf
WILL, until further notice, leave Steamboat
 Hallow, MONDAY and THURSDAY, for B
 at 3, Gardiner at 3, and Barb at 6 o'clock P. M.
 RETURNING—Leaves FOSTER'S WHARF, B
 TUESDAY and FRIDAY evening.

FAR to Boston, \$2.00, Meals Extra.
" to Lowell, 50c.

ARIEL WALL, Agent, Hallowell.
N. B. This boat will take no Live Calves on this season.
Hallowell, April, 1868.




FLAGG'S LINE OF PACKET

Will run between AUGUSTA, HALLOWELL, BOSTON, the present season, as follows:
Schr. S. D. BAILEY, ARTHUR BOWLE, Master
" GAZELLE, ELISHA SPRINGER.

"ODFELLOW, SAMUEL BEALS,
ADVENT, T. R. FOOL.
One of the above vessels will sail every week
Flag's Wharf, Augusta, and from the Jog on Nor
of Long Wharf, Boston, every SATURDAY.
[T These vessels will take steam up and down the
when necessary.
Refer to HEDGE, HAMLEN & Co., A. A. BITTNER
WILLIAMS, J. D. PIERCE, and N. FLAGG, Augusta.
The S. D. Bailey and Gazelle are now in Boston,
to receive freight.
Augusta, April 5, 1848.

UNION LINE.

Augusta, Hallowell and Boston Packet
TO sail every SATURDAY from Smith's wharf,
 sa, and T wharf, Boston.
 Schr. **HARRIET ANN,** W. H. HEATH, Ma
ROMERSETT, B. L. HINKLEY,
 " **WATERVILLE,** A. L. GOVE,
 " **CONSUM,** J. JACK.

These vessels are of the first class, and command
 men who are good pilots, and experienced in the
 The Masters pledge themselves to be attentive to the
 aliness, and to sail with promptness and despatch.
 their utmost efforts to please shippers, they ask a
 cence of the patronage of their friends and the public
 The shore vessels will take steam up and down the
 when necessary.

Refer to Messrs. G. C. CHILD, T. W. & H. R.

S. LEONARD & CO., RALPH BUTLER, JR., AUGUSTUS
HOMER, Hallowell.
Augusta, April, 1948.

Dissolution of Co-partnership.
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J. E. LADD
L. MYRICK
Augusta, April 10, 1948.

THE DRUG BUSINESS
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CHARLES NE
CYRUS B. SWIN

Wayne, April 10, 1948.

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